

PRESS RELEASE

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100 Deere Cotton Pickers Transit To Turkmenistan

The country of Turkmenistan received a hefty boost to its agricultural sector recently, with the delivery of 100 new John Deere mechanical Cotton Pickers. Manufactured at the John Deere Des Moines Works in Ankeny, Iowa, the 4-row harvesters traveled in two stagings by rail to the Port of Baltimore and via ship to Bremerhaven, Germany. Cotton ranks as Turkmenistan's third leading export, and in a country with only 3.47% of its land arable, this upgrade is expected to significantly increase their farmers' productivity.

An initiative by Norfolk Southern Railway Co. to accommodate these 'High and Wide' machines made their participation in the transit to Baltimore possible. Upon arrival at Dundalk Marine Terminal, the Cotton Pickers were quickly unloaded and placed upon specially diverted Wallenius-Wilhelmsen ships bound across the Atlantic.

As the closest inland port to the Midwest, Baltimore's location and skilled work force enabled the shipment to meet its strict timetable. "The U.S. transit for the first 50 Cotton Pickers could not have been better," noted John Deere Port Inspector Craig Peterson. "We had absolutely no room for delays and we stayed ahead of schedule throughout. It was better than expected and showed teamwork at its best."

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